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REMARKS

The Office Action of 10/04/2006 has been carefully considered. In response thereto, the claims have been amended as set forth above. Reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and the present remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3 were rejected as being unpatentable over Cushman in view of Takahashi and Ballato. This rejection is respectfully traversed, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The present invention relates to a bulk acoustic resonator, of which two principal types are known in the prior art: a film bulk acoustic resonator (FBAR) and a solidly mounted resonator (SMR). The present invention relates in particular to SMRs.

The primary reference, Cushman, described in the BACKGROUND portion of the present specification, relates to FBARs.

The secondary references, Takahashi and Ballato, do not relate at all the bulk acoustic resonators used in bulk acoustic wave (BAW) filters. Rather, they relate to surface acoustic wave (SAW) filters. BAW and SAW filters work on distinctly different principles and have acquired a distinct status in the art. For this reason, it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of the references in the manner suggested.

Moreover, the primary reference and the second references are so structurally distinct as to preclude any meaningful combination. As previously alluded to, Cushman relates to FBARs. As seen in Figure 1 of Cushman, an underside of the FBAR 20 is exposed—there is no adjoining element.

As a result of this structure, it is impractical or impossible to apply the roughening technique of Takahashi. Similarly, it is impractical or impossible to apply the "washboard" technique of Ballato.

Withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of claims 1-6 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Ure", is written over a horizontal line.

Michael J. Ure, Reg. 33,089

Dated: 01/04/2007